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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In the application of: Hermann Kern et al.
Serial Number: 10/708,741
Filing Date: 3/23/2004
Title: Sealing Ring

**Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

REQUEST TO GRANT PRIORITY DATE

Pursuant to 35 USC 119 and 37 CFR 1.55, applicant herewith claims priority of the following **German** patent application(s):

103 13 162.0 filed 3/25/2003.

A certified copy of the priority document is enclosed.

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GEH/Enclosure: German priority document(s) DE10313162.0